

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/510,396
Reply to Office Action dated December 22, 2005
Art. Unit: 1713

Remarks

The Office Action mailed December 22, 2005 has been received and reviewed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 5. Claim 5 has been canceled with out prejudice. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-4 and 6-26 are pending. It is submitted that the pending claims are supported by the specification.

The Examiner's indication that claim 5 contains allowable subject matter is appreciated.

For the reasons given below, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Claim rejections 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-4 and 6-20 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hesse et al.* (US 2003/157286) in view of *Baren et al.* (ISSN: 0322-7340) and further in view of *Jarrin et al.* (US 5,218,916). This rejection is traversed.

Claim 5 is not subject to this rejection. Independent claim 1 includes the allowable subject matter of claim 5. Therefore, this rejection no longer applies.

Furthermore, neither *Hesse et al.*, *Baren et al.* nor *Jarrin et al.*, alone or in combination, teach or suggest a syntactic polyolefin composition for coating a pipe includes a polyolefin homopolymer having a melt flow rate of 100-1500 g/10 min at 230°C/2.16 kg.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing differences, it is respectfully submitted that neither *Hesse et al.*, *Baren et al.* nor *Jarrin et al.*, alone or in combination, teach or suggest the presently claimed invention and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/510,396
Reply to Office Action dated December 22, 2005
Art. Unit: 1713

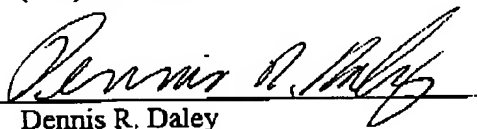
Conclusion

In summary, it is submitted that each of claims 1-4 and 6-26 is in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below, if the Examiner believes that doing so will expedite prosecution of this patent.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: March 17, 2006


Dennis R. Daley
Reg. No. 34,994

DRD/SMM